

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Authentic Freedom

by Matt Clifton

"Freedom" means different things to different people, such as political liberty, like the constitution. Others think freedom means doing whatever one wants morally. Some even think freedom means doing whatever one wants, regardless of the rule of law.

Authentic freedom is based on the word of God and the work of Jesus Christ. In John 8:36, Jesus said, "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." Freedom comes by knowing the truth (John 8:32; 17:17) and obeying it (Matt. 7:21-27). Authentic freedom in Christ increases ones hope in at least three ways:

1. Freedom from the burdens of life. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus says the sinner is "heavy laden." Jesus says bring that burden to Him. Hebrews 12:1 says to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us." Jesus can free us and give us rest from the burden of false religion and traditions of men (Matt. 23:3-4).

2. Freedom from bondage to sin. The Jews that Jesus was speaking to in John 8 were in bondage to the law, the traditions of men, and to sin (John 8:44). Christ could free them not only from the law (Col. 2:14), but also from the *guilt* of sin (Rom. 3:23-26).

3. Freedom from blindness. Jesus could open their eyes to the truth, if they so desired (John 8:32). Paul's mission to the Gentiles was to "open their eyes" (Acts 26:18).

May we always remember our spiritual freedom that comes only through Christ Jesus. This is the Christian hope that cannot be obtained anywhere else. Jesus frees us from the burdens of life, the bondage to sin, and blunder of blindness. Are you free and full of hope in the Lord Jesus Christ? He died and rose to give you both.

Dates to Remember

November 17th **Men's Breakfast** @ 8am
 November 25th **Ladies Night Out** @ 6pm, bring item for Manna House
 December 29th **Potluck** after services

CHILDREN'S
HOMES, INC.



Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
 Sunday Bible Class 11:15 a.m.
 Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.
 Nursing Home 3rd Sunday 2 p.m.

Please bring money or items for the Children's Homes

Cold & Flu Medicine Dish Washer Detergent (Liquid or Pods)
 Fabric Softener Individually Packed Snacks/Drink Mixes
 Crunchy Peanut Butter Cereal French Style Green Beans

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips 373-0546
 David Brightwell 291-1122

Alan Love 243-4608
 Frank Fowler 291-1784

Joe Cooper
291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
217-1109

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 Box 267
 Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

➤ Jean Hall passed away. Visitation will be at Eddie's on Saturday, November 9th @ 1pm. Funeral is @ 2pm. A meal will be served at the fellowship hall before visitation.

* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
SONG LEADER	Doyle Wyatt	David Brightwell
OPENING PRAYER	Alan Love	Bryan Phillips
CLOSING PRAYER	Frank Fowler	Davis Love



Alan Love	Davis Love	Bryan Phillips
Danny Runion	Frank Fowler	Wyatt Fowler

DOOR GREETERS

NOVEMBER 3RD **SHELBY & RAMONA QUALLS**
 NOVEMBER 10TH **DOYLE & DIANA WYATT**

CHILDREN'S GATHERING TEACHERS FOR NOVEMBER
RAMONA QUALLS, BETTY BRIGHTWELL & NATALIE BRIGHTWELL

Nursery

November 3rd **Tamra Brightwell**
 November 10th **Holly Cooper**

Power in Prayer Project

Lord, I pray that You will open my eyes to any blindness that has crept into my life unknowingly. Give me discernment to identify darkness and the strength and humility to turn to light. Set me apart by faith in You as you steadily increase Your freedom and hope within for all the days of my life.

We have a critical shortage of Bible teachers in the children's classes. You are needed in this area. Please pray about it and if you would like to teach for a quarter talk to David or Betty.

Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, Tyler Talkington, A.J. Talkington, Blake Johnson

Officers: Steven & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe

Health: Dot Sanders	Joyce Newbrey	Cal Gillihan	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Jane Sullivan	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Pritchard	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenon
Eutha Vest	Tommy Washington	Jim Fowler	Dale Smith
Andrew Pearson	Ivy Jo Slade	Toni Lawrence	Andrew Weaver
Sue Washington	Johnny Guthrie	Charlotte Cooper	Dan Clark
Nick & Mary Kosmitis		Earnie Blackley	

Nursing Home: Lucille Linn, Audrey Eddings, Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Jimmy Gillihan, Emma Jean Cooper

November Birthdays

Kelly Webb 1 st	Sherry Davidson 5 th	Maggie Cannon 5 th
Joe Cooper 5 th	Lori Grisham 8 th	Al Gillihan 11 th
Laura Sipe 11 th	Sophie Wyatt 11 th	Ted Wammack 13 th
Addyson Hoskinds 13 th	Daniel Brightwell 25 th	Peyton Elms 28 th
Doug Yancey 30 th		

November Anniversaries

Doug & Jeannie Yancey 4th

Psalm 118:5, "In my distress I prayed to the Lord, and the Lord answered me and set me free."

